



wherein m is [an integer between] 0 [and 10, inclusive]; A and A' are L-amino acid residues such that the A in each repeating bracketed unit can be a different amino acid residue; the C bonded to B is in the L-configuration; the bonds between A and N, A' and C, and between A' and N are peptide bonds; and each X^1 and X^2 is, independently, a hydroxyl group or a group capable of being hydrolysed to a hydroxyl group at physiological pH.

REMARKS

The claims are directed to optically pure isomers of DP-IV inhibitors, in which, rather than being racemates, the compounds contain only L-isomers of amino acid residues. The optically-pure isomers of the invention are not the normal reaction product resulting from the synthetic procedures described in the prior art (Bachovchin U.S. Patent No. 4,935,493). In order to prepare the optically pure isomers of the invention, the normally-produced racemate had to be subjected to rigorous purification, including high pressure liquid chromatography.

Following purification of the optically pure, L-isomeric amino acid-containing